AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1 - 13. (canceled).

14. (currently amended): A telecommunication method, ~~wherein~~comprising the steps of:

- causing a transmitter (40) ~~transmits information~~ to transmit to a receiver (44) information with a power that varies according to a set point supplied by the receiver,

- ~~this~~ establishing the set point ~~is established~~ from a comparison between a characteristic ($\hat{\gamma}$) of ~~the~~ a received signal and a reference characteristic (γ_{ref}),

- ~~the purpose of~~ the set point ~~is to maintain~~ maintaining the power of the transmitter at such a level that the characteristic of the received signal is constantly equal to or similar to the reference characteristic, and

- since a delay occurs in the transmission of signals between the transmitter and the receiver, generating the set point ~~is generated~~ in the receiver whenever information is received, ~~from,~~ on the one hand, from said comparison between the characteristic of the received signal and the reference ~~characteristic~~ characteristic, and, on ~~the other~~ another hand, from a signal representing the transmission power of the received ~~signal~~ signal, ~~wherein the set point is generated~~ and, on a third hand, from ~~the~~ set points previously generated and transmitted to the transmitter but which the ~~latter~~ transmitter could not ~~registered~~ register owing to the transmission ~~delays~~delay.

15. (currently amended): A method according to claim ~~1, wherein, since~~ 14, wherein the characteristic of the received signal is a smoothed signal to noise ratio, and further comprising the steps of:

in the receiver, determining the instantaneous signal to noise ratio ($\tilde{\gamma}$) of the received ~~signal is determined, it is divided~~ signal, dividing the ratio by a signal (T_x) representing the transmission power of the received signal, ~~this ratio is smoothed and~~ smoothing the ratio and multiplying the smoothed ratio ~~is multiplied~~ by the signal (T_x) representing the transmission power of the received signal, the result ($\hat{\gamma}$) of this multiplication being ~~the~~ a characteristic which is compared to the reference characteristic.

16. (currently amended): A method according to claim ~~2, wherein the update,~~ 15, further comprising the step of:

at time t, in the receiver, ~~of~~ updating the signal (T_x) representing the transmission power of the received signal ~~is made~~ after a time t' has elapsed following transmission of a set point C(t) from the receiver to the transmitter,

this time t' being equal to the sum of the transmission delay t_p from the receiver to the transmitter, the processing time t_e or acknowledgement of the set point in the transmitter and the transmission delay time t_p from the transmitter to the receiver, and

wherein ~~in that this update~~ said updating involves multiplying ~~the~~ previously stored power by the set point issued at time t.

17. (currently amended): A method according to claim ~~3, wherein~~ 16, further comprising the step of generating the set point C(t) ~~is generated~~ from the following formula:

$$C(t) = \frac{\gamma_{ref}}{\hat{\gamma}(t)} \quad \frac{T_x(t)}{T_x(t + t')}$$

wherein γ_{ref} is the value of the reference characteristic, $\hat{\gamma}(t)$ is the value of the characteristic measured at time t in the receiver, and $T_x(t)$ and $T_x(t+t')$ are the signals representing the transmission power of the signal received at times t and t+t' respectively.

18. (currently amended): A method according to claim ~~3, wherein~~ 16, further comprising the step of generating the set point C(t) ~~is generated~~ from the following formula:

$$C(t) = \frac{\gamma_{ref}}{\hat{\gamma}(t)} \quad \frac{1}{\Pi C}$$

in which γ_{ref} is the reference characteristic value, $\hat{\gamma}(t)$ is the value of the characteristic measured at time t in the ~~receiver~~ receiver, and ΠC is the set point or product of the set points previously issued but not yet registered by the transmitter.

19. (currently amended): A method according to claim ~~1,~~ 14, wherein the set point transmitted by the receiver to the transmitter is transmitted simultaneously with information or signalling data.

20. (currently amended): A method according to claim ~~6,~~ 19, wherein the data transmitted from the receiver to the transmitter is in the form of cells or packets of digital data, and ~~wherein~~ further comprising the step of transmitting each set point ~~is transmitted~~ into ~~the~~ a header of the cell or packet.

21. (currently amended): A method according to claim ~~1,~~ 14, wherein the information transmitted from the transmitter (40) to the receiver (44) ~~being~~ is digital information transmitted

by cells or packets, and further comprising the step of determining the characteristic of the received signal ~~is determined~~ at each cell.

22. (currently amended): A method according to claim ~~1,~~ 14, wherein the traffic flow of information from the transmitter to the receiver or from the receiver to the transmitter is ~~of the sporadic type.~~sporadic.

23. (currently amended): A method according to claim ~~1,~~ 14, wherein since the transmitter (40) is also intended to receive information from the receiver (44) and since the receiver is intended to transmit information to the transmitter, said method further comprising the steps of controlling the transmission power of the receiver ~~is controlled~~ from a set point supplied by the transmitter.

24. (currently amended): A receiver ~~design~~ designed to implement the telecommunications method according to claim ~~one,~~ 14, wherein, since this receiver ~~(44),~~ (44) also transmits signals to the transmitter (40), ~~it~~ said receiver has also ~~a~~ means (58') to generate set points, said means (58') comprising :

·memory means (70) ~~to store~~ for storing set points already generated and transmitted to the transmitter but not yet received and taken into account by said transmitter because of propagation delays;

·means for updating said not yet received set ~~points~~points; and

·means for ~~comparison between a~~ comparing the characteristic ($\hat{\gamma}$) of said received signal and ~~a~~ the reference characteristic (γ_{ref});

~~said receiver further comprising~~ wherein said memory means (70) ~~for storing~~ also stores values representing the transmission power of said received signal, wherein said stored representative values are updated each time signals are sent from the receiver to the transmitter.

25. (currently amended): A receiver according to claim ~~11,~~ 24, wherein said ~~receiver further~~ memory means comprises a circular memory (70) with a capacity of t', where t' is the sum of the transmission delay t_p from the receiver to the transmitter, the processing time t_e calculated in the ~~transmitter~~ transmitter, and the transmission delay time t_p from the transmitter to the receiver.

26. (currently amended): ~~Application of the method according to claim 1 to~~ The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of providing the transmitter and the receiver in a satellite-based telecommunications system ~~in which~~ having a control station (20) and a plurality of terminals (16, 18) ~~are provided~~, the terminals and control station communicating via the satellite.